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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Inspection Report

Minerals Regulatory Program

Report Date: September 28, 2004

Mine Name: Rowley/Stansbury
Operator or Permittee Name:
US Magnesium
Permittee Mailing Address:

Permit number: M/045/008
Inspection Date: September 24, 2004

Inspector(s): Paul Baker

Weather: Clear, 70's
Inspection Start Time: 11:00 a.m.
Inspection End Time: 12:00 p.m.
Site location/Area Inspected (i.e. Pit #):
Areas seeded in the fall of 2003

Other Participants: None

Surface Ownership: Fee, SITLA, BLM, FFSL

Permit Status: Active

Mineral Ownership: FFSL
Mineral Mined: Magnesium

Current Acreages:
Total Permitted (Bonded): 62
Total Disturbed: Unknown

Type of Mine:
Evaporation/Concentration

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	N/A	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (open shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Explosives, magazines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Concurrent Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Demolition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Backfilling and Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Water Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Purpose of Inspection: My purpose in visiting the site was to look at the areas seeded in 2003 to see how well the herbicide treatment worked and how well vegetation was becoming established compared to last spring.

Inspection Summary:

13. Revegetation

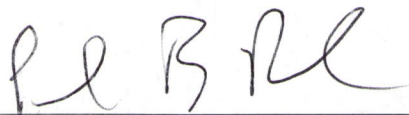
In the southernmost area seeded, I found fewer seedlings than last spring, but there were some seedlings in places. The grasses I found were still very small—not much larger than they were in April—but they appeared to be alive (Photo 1). I also found some shadscale and forage kochia seedlings. The area north of the plant that was used for loading oolitic sands was very similar but without the shrubs.

There were very few weeds in the portion of the main oolitic sands area where Plateau was sprayed. Although the purpose of the Plateau application was to control cheatgrass, it clearly had an effect on other annuals, including halogeton and Russian thistle. The areas in the foreground and the intermediate background of Photo 2 (the area closer than the mountains but beyond the bare area) were not sprayed. The reddish vegetation is Russian thistle. The area in Photo 3 was sprayed with Plateau.

There were not as many seedlings of desirable plants as Lynn Kunzler and I found last April. I was able to find these seedlings in both the sprayed and unsprayed areas.

At this time, it is impossible to know whether the Plateau application has had a positive effect on establishment or growth of desirable species. Because the desirable grasses are still so small, it would be difficult to take quantitative measurements and determine whether it has had a positive effect at this site. The only certain conclusion is that Plateau has greatly reduced the number of annuals although I do not have numbers to back up this statement.

Inspector's Signature



Date: September 28, 2004

PBB:jb

cc: Tom Tripp, Operator
John Blake, SITLA
____ SL BLM
Karl Kappe, FFSL

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ATTACHMENT

Photographs

M/045/008, Rowley/Stansbury, U. S. Magnesium

Inspection Dated: September 24, 2004; Report Dated: September 28, 2004

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Photo 1. Grass seedlings intermixed with halogeton in the southernmost area seeded in 2003.



Photo 2. The foreground area and the intermediate background area in front of the mountains were not sprayed with Plateau.



Photo 3. This area was sprayed with Plateau. There are a few weeds but not nearly as many as in the unsprayed areas.